

Research Brief

Scheduling Advisory

Question: How school schedules can effectively accommodate advisory time?

Summary of Findings:

More and more high schools are implementing Advisory programs for a variety of reasons: personalization, academics & study skills, life success skills, self-knowledge, addressing the concern about students feeling “lost” in the high school setting, first line of contact for the parents, and portfolios. But finding a way to schedule advisory can seem more of a challenge than designing an advisory curriculum. Schools have several approaches to scheduling advisory.

Many schools have a 20-40 minute advisory every day, often either at the beginning of the day, near the end of the day, or built around the lunch schedule. At Incarnate Word High School, each morning starts with a morning advisory at 8:00 a.m. Each student is assigned to an advisory of about 20-25 students of the same classification (i.e. all freshmen, all sophomores, etc.). After advisory, each student proceeds with her schedule for the day. At Craig High School, advisory and lunch run concurrently:

Advisory

11:40-12:15 - Lunch A-K

11:40-11:55 - Advisory L-Z

12:00-12:35 - Lunch L-Z

12:20-12:35 - Advisory A-K

Not all advisory programs run the entire school year. Middleton High School’s Freshman Advisory class is held between 2nd and 3rd hours during the 1st semester. The class is a 20 minute class that freshmen are required to attend and is worth .25 credits.

Other schools only have advisory on special advisory days. For example, W.F. West High School has a regular schedule without advisory and on Assembly/Advisory Days, classes are 5 minutes shorter to allow for a 30 minute Assembly/Advisory period. James Lick High School has a regular 6 period schedule with 60 minute classes. The Wednesday Advisory Schedule has classes meeting for 55 minutes and Advisory meeting for 35 minutes at the end of the day. Buhach Colony High School, Bishop Ireton High School, Kimberly High School, and all have “Regular Day” and “Advisory Day” schedules.

Northside College Preparatory High School of Chicago had the most interesting type of schedule allowing for a weekly advisory day. NCPHS has a regular block schedule 4 out of 5 days. On the 3rd day, they have advisory from 7:55-8:35, a Colloquium from 8:40-11:40, and teachers have common planning time from 11:40-3:12 (early release). Although having nothing to do with advisory, the Colloquium was an interesting twist to the schedule. According to their web site: “**What is Colloquium?** Arts and Humanities Director Mr. Hampton defines it as ‘an academic forum for exploring a myriad of topics and subjects outside of the regular traditional core curriculum - inspired by the Greek teacher Socrates and taught by Northside faculty and staff.’ For the rest of us, colloquium is the often-Wednesday three hour class picked every semester. It’s a class that allows students to learn something no traditional high school would offer. Examples include learning how to assemble and maintain motorcycles, writing a screenplay and creating a short film, and even taking field trips to the supermarket to improve produce picking skills.”



Online Resources:

Mead High School

302 W. Hastings Rd.
Spokane WA, 99218
Phone: (509) 465-7000
Fax: (509) 465-7020

http://mhs.mead.k12.wa.us/documents/0405_handbook.pdf

Hudson's Bay High School

1206 East Reserve Street
Vancouver, WA 98661
(360) 313-4400
(360) 313-4401 FAX

<http://bay.vansd.org/>

Northside College Preparatory High School

5501 N. Kedzie Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
Tel: (773) 534-3954
Main Office- ext. 100
Fax: (773) 534-3964

<http://www.nscollegeprep.cps.k12.il.us/ncphs/admin/Handbook.pdf>

W.F. West High School

342 SW 16th, Chehalis, WA 98532
(360)807-7235

<http://www.chehalis.k12.wa.us/wfw/bells.php>

Buhach Colony High School

1800 Buhach Road
Atwater, CA 95301

<http://www.bchs.muhsd.k12.ca.us/>

Bishop Ireton High School

201 Cambridge Road
Alexandria, VA 22314
PHONE (703) 751-7606
FAX (703) 212-8173

<http://www.bishopireton.org/documents/0405BellSchedule.html>

Middleton High School

2100 Bristol Street
Middleton, WI 53562
608-829-9660

<http://www.mcpsd.k12.wi.us/mhs/school/advisory.cfm>

Incarnate Word High School

727 E. Hildebrand
San Antonio, TX 78212

<http://www.educationpartnerships.org/>



210-829-3100

http://www.incarnatewordhs.org/curriculum/modu_sch.html

James Lick High School

57 North White Road

San Jose, CA 95127

(408) 347-4400

<http://www.jameslick.org/info-bell-schedule05-06.htm>

Craig High School

Janesville, WI

<http://janessville.k12.wi.us/cra/campusinfo/schedules.html>

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Engaged Learning

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